



# K O O N G G A

Bulletin of the Rotary Club Of Ku-ring-gai Inc - Chartered 6th February 1959

Volume 56 No. 30 3 March 2014

Rotary monthly theme: March: Literacy

## This week

### Club Forum

This is an opportunity for the members of the board and committee chairmen to report to the club on progress towards meeting the club's goals for the year and the state of its finances.



It's also the other members' opportunity to question what the board and committees are doing and to raise other suggestions. A bit like Question Time in Parliament really.

So if you've got a bee in your bonnet about something, come along and make your thoughts known. Want a different District Conference format? Vote for President Tony to be District Governor and you can be sure it will happen! (Our club's last District Governor was PDG Ivan Skellet in 1995-96, so it's high time for another.)

## Last meeting

President Tony welcomed our guest speaker, David Bennett, and Colin Batt.



The Community Service Committee was presented with ideas for publishing information about allergies caused by ticks amongst Rotary clubs, medical practitioners, the local community and Bobbin Head Cycle Classic participants. Go to it, committee!

Emyr Evans volunteered to stand in for Michael Midlam running Bowelscan this year. Well done, Emyr!



President Tony urged the members to introduce 6 new female members to the club, to balance up the 6 new male members he has inducted. Tony wants them for their organisational skills and multitasking ability.

## Bobbin Head Cycle Classic

Peter Kipps reported on the progress of registrations for the BHCC (920 to date - more than at the same stage in 2013) and the sources of the riders (flyers, word of mouth, Facebook, etc.). Many more riders are needed to get to our target.



Jack McCartney reported on progress with obtaining sponsors. Again, more are needed.

Bob Elsworth put out the call for volunteers to assist on the day of the BHCC. Our club needs to source at least 50, including its members and their partners.

We're in the final straight, fellows - less than 3 weeks to go, so do your best to:

- Spread the word (and the posters) about the BHCC;
  - Recruit riders for the event; and
  - Find volunteers to help on Sunday, 23 March;
- all from amongst your family, friends and business associates.

## Club shirts and caps

Need a club shirt and/or cap? Ross Egan has designs and sizes to suit every member, with more stock on the way. Express your individuality - you don't have to look like everyone else! (There were a lot of Rotarians wearing similar designs at the District Conference. Where our club leads, others follow!)

## International Women's Day

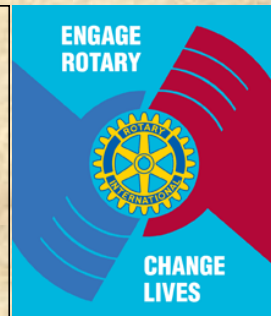
International Women's Day (also known as United Nations Day for Women's Rights and International Peace) is held annually on 8 March to celebrate women's achievements throughout history and across nations.



Events to celebrate the day are being organised by the Rotary Club of Norwest Sunrise (Thursday, 6 March: contact Lorraine Clifford (M) 0488 025 533 (E) [Lorraine@businessserviceshq.com.au](mailto:Lorraine@businessserviceshq.com.au)) and by Ku-ring-gai Council (Friday, 7 March - see flyer on next page).

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The club meets every Monday 6.30pm at West Pymble Bicentennial Club, 2 Prince of Wales Drive, West Pymble. Visitors welcome. [www.kuringgairotary.org.au](http://www.kuringgairotary.org.au)

Rotary International Theme 2013-2014

## International Women's Day

### International Women's Day

Inspiring change

FRIDAY 7 MARCH

10:30am - 12:30pm

Free event

The Secret Garden

Gordon Library, 799 Pacific Highway, Gordon

#### COME AND ENJOY:

- Inspirational talks from prominent women
- Multicultural performances
- Get pampered at our free make-up stall

LUCKY DOOR PRIZES!



#### Event details

Council Event

Add to calendar

For: Everyone

When: Fri 07 Mar 2014 at 10:30 AM -12:30 PM

Where: Gordon Library Secret Garden  
799 Pacific Highway, Gordon

Contact details:  
Contact Person: Danny Houseas  
Telephone: 9424 0829  
Email: [houseas@kmc.nsw.gov.au](mailto:houseas@kmc.nsw.gov.au)  
Website: <http://www.kmc.nsw.gov.au>

Cost: Free

### Last meeting's speaker



#### David Bennett - Shaping Suburbia: towards the suburbs of the future

Our growing cities have created pressure on the need to house more people in the same space. In existing areas, increases in residential density are usually attempted via development bonuses. Sometimes these changes result in new development but in many cases - such as in less affluent parts of our city - simply increasing development bonuses on a planning map often results nothing happening at all.

Where development bonuses are unsuccessful in stimulating growth, it diminishes the capacity of large areas of our cities to flourish and also puts additional pressure on the necessary growth being provided in other parts of our cities. It is an approach that has failed to allow our cities to adapt to current and future needs.

Shaping Suburbia advocates a different way for our existing low-density suburbs to evolve via an unconventional development model and instead play a significant part in our cities' growth, to increase citizen's incidental activity, and to reduce per-citizen ecological footprint.

#### BACKGROUND

About 70% of Australians live in suburbia – that is low-density detached housing. While the 'centres' should and will continue to grow with some high-rise developments, our suburban areas represent a significant land area and represent a significant opportunity for our cities.

As a form of development, suburbia can be seen to have served our society remarkably well for a period of over 50 years. As our cities grow, the focus on increasing high-rise development is entirely understandable as it has had some success and has many compelling

European precedents. However and perhaps particularly in the Australian context, in many areas it is strongly opposed and remains a 'second-best' housing option for many buyers.

Yet the property industry, usually represented by large development companies, has long advocated upzoning in existing areas for high rise development to occur. In many existing areas, simply increasing development yield allowances has been shown to be spectacularly unsuccessful, typically due to land economics being unfavourable for this development type in all but the best areas.

To put it another way: for some areas of our cities high-rise is the right response, but this does not make it the right response everywhere.

#### A NEW LANDSCAPE

It is well understood in the Planning and Design professions that the four D's (Density, Diversity, Design and Destinations) are needed to create vibrant, walkable, low-carbon places. Beyond the profession though, it is fascinating to watch the recent and rapid uptake by the general public to the 'liveability' benefits of such places.

Established 'walkability' metrics are changing the way people understand what a built-environment will be like. This is evidenced by the success of [www.walkscore.com](http://www.walkscore.com) and its transformation of parts of the (particularly) American rental and real estate markets. Prospective renters and purchasers are now armed with information on their smartphone that was unthinkable only a decade ago.

People are now choosing to seek out vibrant, walkable, low-carbon built-environments – and property values are changing accordingly. Walkscore has allowed people to understand and assess the range of co-benefits such as living in a vibrant community, improved health, and living with significantly lower carbon footprint, and people are actively choosing it.

This change toward health and community has a surprising bed-fellow: city growth and development. Most of us intuitively understand that Potts Point will be more walkable than, say, Forresterville, but Shaping Suburbia has shown that in the spectrum of different development types that a 'threshold minimum' of the four D's will allow the valuable co-benefits to occur – effectively a 'sweet spot' – which does NOT require high rise development.

#### WHERE TO NEXT?

Shaping Suburbia challenges the conventional wisdom regarding growth in infill areas. It adds nuance to what is typically a polarised debate of high rise vs. suburbia and presents a viable pathway for the places where most of us choose to live – a house in the suburbs – to evolve toward 2050.

A thoughtful low-carbon living built-environment adaptation of the suburbs is not only possible but necessary to meet housing demand, increase community connectedness and achieve sustainability goals and objectives. Citizens can choose to live in a vibrant place, yet still live in a house - and importantly that house can still be on a freehold title and in a leafy, familiar environment.

David Bennett

[www.shapingsuburbia.com](http://www.shapingsuburbia.com)

## District 9685 Conference



Last Sunday President Tony McClelland and Janette, Secretary Geoff Hungerford, Ivan and Joyce Cribb, Greg and Joy Newling, Michael and Louise Tyler, Linda Lam-Rohlf and Rob Hall attended the District conference at The Concourse, Chatswood.

As always at these events, there was a wide range of inspiring speakers on various topics, an interesting array of project stalls, lots of good company and a surfeit of good food. Notable presentations included:

- Welcome from the RI President's special representative, PDG Patricia Boyle from New Zealand
- 'The New Rotary' - Philip Archer
- 'Why I'm still a Rotarian' - Michael McQueen
- Technology in the disability area (with live demonstration) - Royal Institute for Deaf and Blind Children

The breakout sessions on 7 different topics raised plenty of good ideas and left participants wishing there had been more time for discussion.

For those members who didn't attend the conference - indeed for anyone who is interested - **it's not too late!** The entire conference was recorded and is available for viewing at [live.rotarydistrict9685.org.au](http://live.rotarydistrict9685.org.au) and also on [USTREAM](https://www.ustream.tv/).

Koongga was particularly impressed by Michael McQueen's presentation, which included this explanation as to why Generation Y is not joining Rotary:

### 1. They don't know who you (Rotary) are.

(Message: It's not their fault. Rotary has to get better at explaining what type of people are Rotarians and what they do in Rotary.)

### 2. They don't know if they have time for Rotary.

(Message: Rotary hasn't explained to them why they should make the things that Rotary does a priority in their lives. Also, Rotary must remove barriers to them joining, such as restrictive rules and outdated procedures. Focus instead on getting things (e.g., community projects) done.)

### 3. They don't know if they're welcome.

(Message: Rotary should make them feel welcome by engaging with their interests and inviting them to join.)

In Koongga's view, the same 3 reasons are equally applicable to people older than Gen Y.

## Conference Highlights

The Conference was recorded and four 10 minute highlights packages are available – one for each of the four Conference sessions – on the [Conference On-line page](http://Conference On-line page).

## Club Meeting

Our club may consider including a conference segment or even a live webinar in one or more of its meetings – perhaps in place of a guest speaker. This will be a good way to show new and older members a glimpse of how good District Conferences are. Potential Rotarians should also find them interesting.

## Speaker Presentations

Each speaker's presentation and or speaker notes is available as part of the [Conference On-line page](http://Conference On-line page).

## Breakout Outcomes

The convenor of each breakout session has summarised the outcomes of their session and these will be available as part of the [Conference On-line page](http://Conference On-line page).

## Join a Webinar

Have you ever attended a webinar? It is simply a seminar conducted over the Internet. You log in from your desktop or smart device, then view and listen to the presentation. You may also ask questions and have them answered – simply type your question and submit.

Each webinar will run from 30-40 minutes and will be available as part of [Conference On-line](http://Conference On-line).

The webinars will commence at 7.30pm on the following days:

### Tuesday 4 March

How your Club can Change Lives with RAWCS

### Wednesday 5 March

Keep your members informed

### Thursday 6 March

A. Recognition of Youth Awards, and Rotaract

B. Vocational Service with a Focus on Youth and Young Adults

### Monday 10 March

Today's Research is Tomorrow's Treatment

### Tuesday 11 March

Engaging Women in Rotary – a pathway to membership growth and diversity

Each webinar will be recorded and available for playback as part of [Conference On-line](http://Conference On-line).



## Kamahl at the Conference

Kamahl made a surprise appearance at the District Conference to entertain the attendees & present this opportunity. (You can [see his appearance here](http://see his appearance here) at the 2h37m mark.)

A guaranteed minimum donation of \$5 from the sale proceeds of his Heart & Soul CD will go to End Polio. Buy the CD at [sales.rotarydistrict9685.org.au](http://sales.rotarydistrict9685.org.au) for \$20.

[More details here](http://More details here)

## Calendar of events

March	10	Bob Elsworth - '10 on me' and Nick Watt - Rotary Youth Leadership Award
	17	Bobbin Head Cycle Classic member/volunteer briefing
	23	(Sunday) Bobbin Head Cycle Classic
	24	Bobbin Head Cycle Classic review
	31	Gareth Hall - Pros and cons of self-managed superannuation funds
April	7	Roger Cherry - Who are those people? The plaques of Circular Quay.
	14	TBA
	21	(Easter Monday) No meeting
	28	TBA
May	5	Club forum
	12	Annabelle Chauncy and Tony - School For Life meets SewAid
	15	(Thursday) Bobbin Head Cycle Classic presentation (St Ives)
	19	TBA
	26	Richard Field – Okavango: miracle in the desert
June	1 - 4	Rotary International Convention - venue: Olympic Park, Homebush
	3	Rotary International Convention Host Hospitality Night
	9	(Queen's birthday) No meeting
	23	Club Changeover

## Club officers and committee chairmen 2013-14

### Board of directors

<b>President</b>	Tony McClelland
<b>Vice President</b>	John Aitken
<b>President Elect</b>	Tony McClelland
<b>Secretary</b>	Geoff Hungerford
<b>Treasurer</b>	Graham Maslen
<b>Director - Membership</b>	Roger Desmarchelier
<b>Director - Public Relations</b>	Michael Midlam
<b>Director - Club Administration</b>	(Vacant)
<b>Director - Service Projects</b>	John Aitken
<b>Director - Rotary Foundation</b>	Graham Timms

### Service committee chairmen

<b>Club Service</b>	(Vacant)
<b>Vocational Service</b>	Michael Midlam
<b>Community Service</b>	Ross Lambert
<b>International Service</b>	Greg Newling
<b>Youth Service</b>	Joy Newling
<b>Bobbin Head Cycle Classic</b>	Peter Kipps
<b>Sergeant-at-Arms</b>	Greg Newling

## Club committees 2013-14

**Bobbin Head Cycle Classic:** John Aitken, Ross Egan, Peter Kipps, Tony McClelland, Michael Midlam, Adele Mitchell, Graham Timms

**Club History:** Malcolm Braid, Tom Jackson

**Club Service/Club Administration:** Geoff Hungerford, Graham Maslen, Michael Tyler (Koongga Editor)

**Community Service:** Lou Coenen, Gary Dawson, Roger Desmarchelier, Ross Egan (Daffodil Day), Bob Elsworth, Rob Hall, Chris Hoch (Red Shield Appeal), Geoff Hungerford (Markets) Caroline Jones, Nick Kenyon, Ross Lambert, Loïc Lacombe, Jack McCartney, Michael Midlam (Bowel Scan), Frank White (Markets)

**International Service:** David Forsythe, Graham Maslen, Adele Mitchell, Greg Newling, Peter Tang

**Membership:** Roger Desmarchelier, Dilys Geddes, Linda Lam-Rohlf

**Public Relations:** Michael Midlam

**Program:** Rob Hall, Ross Egan

**Rotary Foundation:** Graham Timms

**Vocational Service:** Michael Midlam

**Youth Service:** Malcolm Braid, Emyr Evans, Greg Goodman, Bob Ivey, Tom Jackson, Linda Lam-Rohlf, Joy Newling, Ted Price